

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. to 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) A method of making a spine board, comprising: forming each of a pair of mating board portions together defining said board that includes at least one speed clip attachment site having an integral molded pin made from the same material as said board for receiving quick-connecting clips when strapping a patient to the spine board;

thermo-welding one of said pair to another of said pair to define a hollow unitary board structure incorporating said integral molded pin at said speed clip attachment site;

then injecting foam into the interior of said unitary board structure through an ingress opening, while providing egress for air from said interior, until said foam fills said interior completely and adheres to the interior of each of said pair of mating board portions, and

sealing said ingress opening after said foam has completely filled the interior of said board sufficiently to prevent a migration path for fluids to an interior of said spine board including at said speed clip attachment site.

17. (Currently amended) The method as set forth in claim 16, wherein the step of forming is a single step of vacuum forming a thermoplastic material.

18. (Currently amended) The method as set forth in claim 16, wherein, in the step of injecting foam, wherein said foam adheres to the interior of said unitary board structure, said unitary board structure being corrugated or rough textured to accept the foam, thereby avoiding delaminating of the structure itself.

19. (Currently amended) The method as set forth in claim 16, further including a step of positioning said unitary board structure in a secondary mold prior to injecting said foam.

20. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 16, wherein said foam is urethane foam.

21. to 74. (Canceled)

75. (New) A method of making a spine board from a thermoplastic material, comprising:

forming each of a pair of mating board portions from said thermoplastic material together defining said board that includes a plurality of speed clip attachment sites, each having an integral molded pin made from the same material as said board for receiving quick-connecting clips when strapping a patient to the spine board;

thermo-welding one of said pair to another of said pair to define a hollow unitary board structure incorporating said integral molded pin at said speed clip attachment site;

then, injecting foam into the interior of said unitary board structure through an ingress opening, while providing egress for air from said interior, until said foam fills said interior completely and adheres to the interior of each of said pair of mating board portions, and

sealing said ingress opening after said foam has completely filled the interior of said board to prevent a migration path to the interior of said board for fluids, including at said speed clip attachment sites.

76. (New) The method as set forth in claim 75, wherein the step of forming is a single step of vacuum forming a thermoplastic material.

77. (New) The method as set forth in claim 75, wherein, in the step of injecting foam, said foam adheres to the interior of said unitary board structure, said unitary board structure being corrugated or rough textured to accept the foam, thereby avoiding delaminating of the structure itself.

78. (New) The method as set forth in claim 75, further including of positioning said unitary board structure in a secondary mold prior to injecting said foam.

79. (New) The method as set forth in claim 76, wherein said foam is urethane foam.

80. (New) A method of making a spine board, comprising:

forming each of a pair of mating board portions, each made from a thermoplastic material, together defining said board, each of said top and bottom board portions having an

interior side that interlocks with foam injected into said spine board to minimize delamination, said spine board including at least one speed clip attachment site having an integrally molded pin of the same thermoplastic material;

thermoplastic welding one of said pair to another of said pair to define a sealed, hollow unitary board structure;

securing said unitary board structure within a secondary mold;

injecting foam into the interior of said unitary board structure secured in said secondary mold through an ingress opening, while providing egress for air from said interior, until said foam completely fills and adheres to said interior of said board portions [completely], and

sealing said ingress opening after said foam has completely filled the interior of said board to form a unitary sealed structure having no path for fluids from an exterior of said structure to the interior of said structure, including at speed clip attachment sites.

81. (New) The method as set forth in claim 80, wherein the step of forming is a single step of vacuum forming a thermoplastic material.

82. (New) The method as set forth in claim 80, wherein, in the step of injecting foam, said foam adheres to the interior of said unitary board structure, said unitary board structure being corrugated or rough textured to accept the foam, thereby avoiding delaminating of the structure itself.

83. (New) The method as set forth in claim 80, further including of positioning said unitary board structure in a secondary mold prior to injecting said foam.

84. (New) The method as set forth in claim 80, wherein said foam is urethane foam.

85. (New) The method as set forth in claim 16, wherein said integral molded pin is barbell-shaped to center the speed clip at a center of the pin.

86. (New) The method as set forth in claim 16, wherein said integral molded pin is located between opposed side walls of a hand-hold in said board.

87. (New) The method as set forth in claim 16, wherein said each of said pair of mating portions includes a downwardly turned tail portion to allow placement of said spine board under a person so that an angle of extrication presents a horizontal angle of departure of that person.

88. (New) The method as set forth in claim 75, wherein said integral molded pin is barbell-shaped to center the speed clip at a center of the pin.

89. (New) The method as set forth in claim 75 wherein said integral molded pin is located between opposed side walls of a hand-hold in said board.

90. (New) The method as set forth in claim 75, wherein said each of said pair of mating portions includes a downwardly turned tail portion to allow placement of said spine board under a person so that an angle of extrication presents a horizontal angle of departure of that person.

91. (New) The method as set forth in claim 80, wherein said integral molded pin is barbell-shaped to center the speed clip at a center of the pin.

92. (New) The method as set forth in claim 80, wherein said integral molded pin is located between opposed side walls of a hand-hold in said board.

93. (New) The method as set forth in claim 80, wherein said each of said pair of mating portions includes a downwardly turned tail portion to allow placement of said spine board under a person so that an angle of extrication presents a horizontal angle of departure of that person.